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Public Health Department

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE HEALTH OF THE

West Lancashire Rural District

DURING THE YEAR

1950



BY

J. GORDON HAILWOOD, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

WIGAN:
E. SIDEBOTHAM, 25/27, WIEND

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WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

1950.

Chairman CHAS. F. KUHL

Vice-Chairman HERBERT PARKINSON, J.P.

Aintree	...	...	...	...	...	Arthur Davenhill, J.P. B. J. Moss.
Altcar	...	...	...	...	...	Stanley Ashcroft.
Aughton	...	...	...	...	...	W. E. Rothwell. John Leigh. G. H. McElroy.
Bickerstaffe	...	...	...	...	...	James Heyes. John Stockley.
Bispham	...	...	...	...	...	T. J. Glover.
Downholland	...	...	...	...	...	T. A. Park.
Ford	...	...	...	...	...	Patrick J. Reilly.
Halsall	...	...	...	...	...	John P. Cropper. J. Rimmer.
Hesketh-with-Becconsall	...	...	...	...	...	Herbert Parkinson, J.P.
Ince Blundell	...	...	...	...	...	Chas. F. Kuhl.
Lydiate	...	...	...	...	...	Miss M. J. Barnes.
Maghull	...	...	...	...	...	Samuel H. Hudson. H. Stafford Moreton A. W. Glenn. James Cain. Mrs. B. E. Long. Mrs. W. M. Mitchell. Mr. W. E. Long.
Melling	...	...	...	...	...	Tom Sergeant.
Netherton	...	...	...	...	...	E. M. Houghton. F. V. King. George Halliwell.
North Meols	...	...	...	...	...	J. Sharrock. J. Taylor.
Rufford	...	...	...	...	...	Harvey Haigh, J.P.
Scarisbrick	...	...	...	...	...	James Sephton. G. Ainscough.
Sefton	...	...	...	...	...	F. W. Preston. J. Alfred Birch.
Simonswood	...	...	...	...	...	R. E. Gregson.
Tarleton	...	...	...	...	...	John Hunter. Rev. L. N. Forse.
Thornton	...	...	...	...	...	Ernest Letter. Reginald Phillips.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Mr. JOHN LEIGHChairman

Mr. A. W. GLENNVice-Chairman

All Members of the Council

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

J. G. HAILWOOD, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary Officers and Meat Inspectors.

JAMES AINSWORTH, Chief Officer.

R. W. BINGHAM.

J. HAILWOOD.

Housing Survey Assistants.

JAMES BELL.

F. PENNINGTON.

Clerical Staff.

Miss P. McKENZIE.

Miss J. WHITE.

All are whole-time officials.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my fifth Annual Report on the Health of the West Rural District.

The District has remained healthy during the year 1950, and there was a reduction in the number of infectious diseases notified — 536 compared with 765 in 1949. This decrease was mainly due to a decrease in the number of cases of Measles and Whooping Cough. There were four cases of Infantile Paralysis, but again no cases of Diphtheria. The level of Immunisation against Diphtheria must be increased if this freedom from the disease is to be maintained since no more than 56.3% of the child population under 15 years of age are protected at the present.

The Birth Rate fell from 15.2 per 1,000 population in 1949 to 13.3, at which figure it is well below that for England and Wales which is 15.8.

The Death Rate remained steady at 10.2 per 1,000 population. The Infantile Death Rate, which is generally considered a sensitive indication of the Death of the populace, shewed a further decline to 32 per 1,000 live births. The figure was 33 in 1949.

The shortage of houses still remains the biggest post-war public health problem and there is still much over-crowding, although I believe the position is less acute in West Lancashire than in many Urban areas; largely due to the progressive outlook of the Council which has built 764 traditional type houses since the end of the war and now owns 1,220 including pre-war, post-war and prefabricated houses, which is one Council house to every 36 persons living in West Lancashire or approximately one family out of every ten living in a Council owned house. In spite of this there are many old and worn-out houses which are due for demolition, but more houses still are needed before this problem can be dealt with adequately.

Finally, I should like to thank the Members of the Committee for their continued interest and support, and the Members of the Staff for their willing assistance at all times.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. G. HAILWOOD.

September, 1951.

Section A.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA FOR 1950

	1950	1949
Area of the District (acres)	67,560 ...	67,560
Population (Registrar General's Mid-1950 estimate) ...	44,870 ...	44,020
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Books ...	12,974 ...	12,752
Rateable Value	£290,603 ...	£287,321
Sums represented by a Penny Rate	£1,153 ...	£1,094
Births	627 ...	669
Deaths	431 ...	429
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 births	32 ...	33

BIRTHS

There were 627 births recorded during the year, of which 321 were male and 306 female; and including 15 illegitimate births, 7 male and 8 female. The crude birth rate was 14.0 per 1,000 population. The adjusted birth rate per 1,000 population (comparability factor 0.95) was 13.3 compared with 15.2 in 1949.

The number of births shewed a fall of 42 births compared with 1949, a decrease of 1.2 per 1,000 population. The rate for England and Wales shews a decline from 16.7 to 15.8.

DEATHS

The total number of deaths registered during 1950, was 431, an increase of 2 over the previous year. The crude death rate was 9.6 per 1,000 population compared with 9.7 in 1949. The adjusted death rate (comparability factor 1.06) was 10.2 per 1,000 population. The death rate continues to compare favourably with the death rate for England and Wales which was 11.6.

Maternal Mortality.

The Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 births (live and still) was 1.55 compared with nil for 1949. The figure for England and Wales was also 1.55. It is satisfactory to record that only one maternal death has occurred in the Rural District during the past four years.

Infant Mortality.

There were 20 deaths of infants under one year of age, giving an Infant Mortality rate of 32 per 1,000 live births, a decrease of two on the figure for 1949. This figure continues to be satisfactory. The rate for England and Wales was ~~19.8~~ per 1,000 live births.

Still Births

The number of still births during 1950 was 18, of which 8 were male and 10 female. This is equivalent to a rate of 28 per 1,000 total live and still births. One of these still births was illegitimate.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE WEST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT, 1951

									Male	Female
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	6
Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	23
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	11
Leukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32	37
Heart Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	70	65
Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	9
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	9
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	8
Other diseases of the respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	5
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	23
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	3
All other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	3
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
									<hr/> 215	<hr/> 216

Deaths of Infants under 1 year:—

						M.	F.		
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	13	6		
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	1	—		
						<hr/>	<hr/>	14	6
Still Births:—									
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	8	9		
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	—	1		
						<hr/>	<hr/>	8	10

Section B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Hospital Accommodation

There are no General Hospitals in the District, but patients are accommodated in the Ormskirk County Hospital, which has a Maternity Block, or in the hospitals of the adjacent towns of Liverpool, Southport and Preston.

All infectious disease cases are admitted where necessary to the Fazakerley Isolation Hospital, Liverpool, or to the New Hall Isolation Hospital, Scarisbrick.

Ambulance

Ambulance Services are provided by the Lancashire County Council from Stations at Ormskirk, Crosby, Formby, Tarleton and Banks. In general, an ambulance can reach any part of the Rural District within 15 minutes.

SUMMARY OF ADMISSIONS TO HOSPITALS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES FROM THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR 1950

Admissions from West Lancashire:—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Tonsillitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Streptococcal throat	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Totals ...							43

These admissions were from the following townships:—

Aughton	...	...	Two cases of Scarlet Fever, one case of Streptococcal throat, one case of poliomyelitis, one case of Puerperal Pyrexia.
Bickerstaffe	...	...	One case of Poliomyelitis.
Bispham	...	...	One case of Scarlet Fever.
Ford	...	...	One case of Poliomyelitis.
Halsall	...	...	Three cases of Scarlet Fever, one case of Poliomyelitis.
Lydiate	...	...	Two cases of Scarlet Fever.
Maghull	...	...	Two cases of Scarlet Fever, three cases of Measles, three cases of Puerperal Pyrexia, one case of Erysipelas, one case of Tonsillitis.
Melling	...	...	One case of Dysentery.
Netherton	...	...	Three cases of Scarlet Fever, one case of Puerperal Pyrexia, one case of Measles.
Scarisbrick	...	...	Nine cases of Scarlet Fever, one case of Puerperal Pyrexia.
Sefton	...	...	One case of Puerperal Pyrexia.
Tarleton	...	...	Two cases of Scarlet Fever.

On the 1st January, 1950, the Health Committee acquired a Commer van primary to transport infectious bedding and clothing.

This van has also been used for journeys in connection with disinfection, disinfestation, removal for condemned foodstuffs and drain clearing.

It has proved its usefulness to the Health Department during the past twelve months.

The West Lancashire Health Department has under-taken the disinfection and removal of bedding in the Ormskirk area on a percentage of costs basis.

DETAILS OF WORK CARRIED OUT

West Lancashire R.D.C.

							Disinfections	Disinfestations
Journeys	...	...	...	...	...	...	75	17
Rooms sprayed			...	...	...	...	99	64
Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	56	17
Articles taken for stoving			...	...	...	...	361	—

Other Journeys

Drain clearing	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	
Removal of condemned food			...	...	...	...	49	
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	

Ormskirk U.D.C.

							Disinfections	Disinfestations
Journeys	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	5
Rooms sprayed	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	20
Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	7
Articles taken for stoving			...	...	...	...	53	—

DEATHS IN THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT.
Percentage of Deaths in Age Groups.

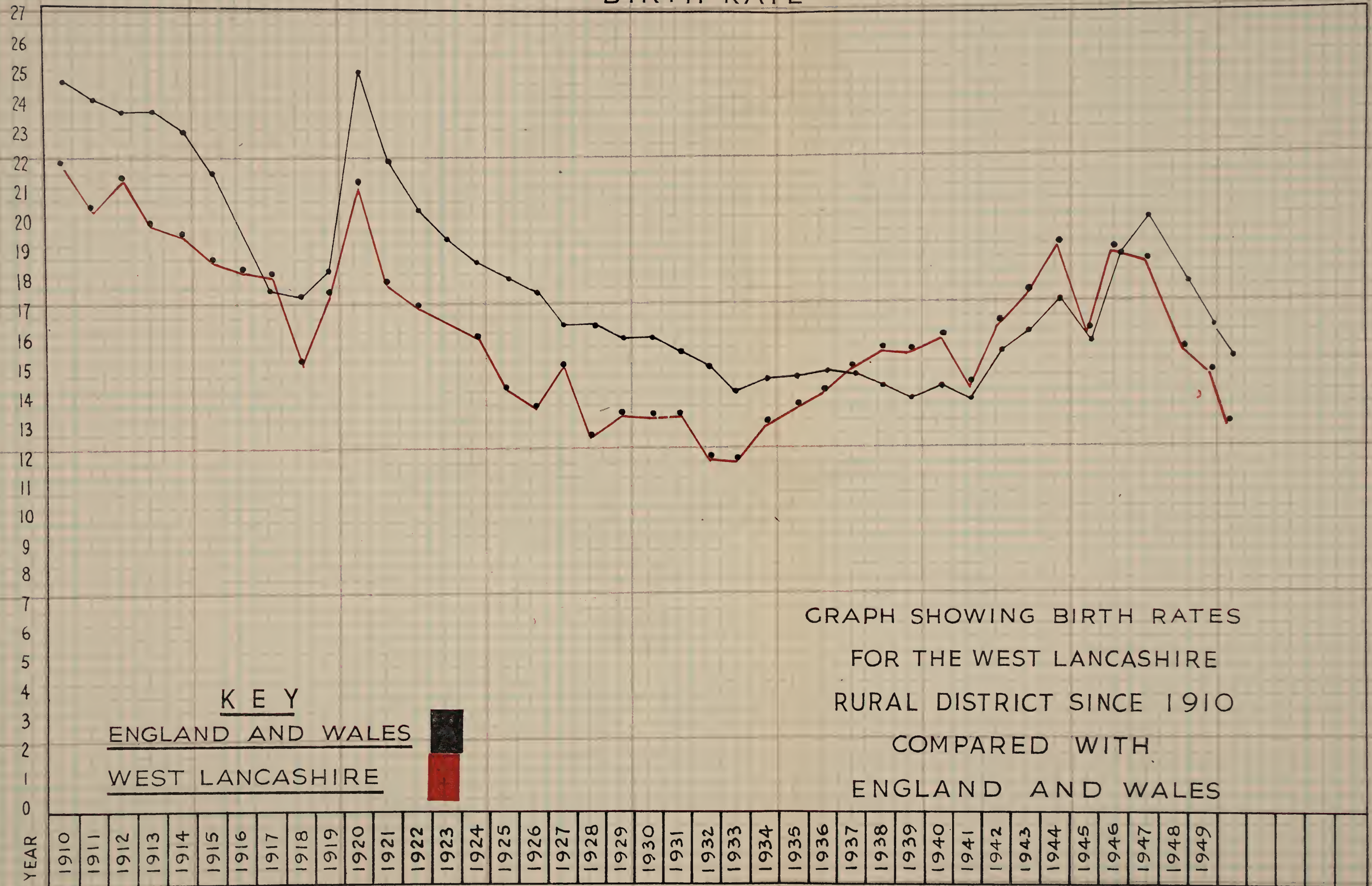
Five Year Period	AT AGES — YEARS									
	Under 5 Years	5	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80
1926-1930 (Average)	8.85	1.85	2.5	4.0	4.5	7.4	9.8	20.7	27.6	12.7
1931-1935 (Average)	11.34	0.9	2.78	3.46	4.48	6.24	11.3	19.92	25.14	12.4
1936-1940 (Average)	9.58	1.2	1.8	3.58	4.62	7.46	11.56	21.26	24.82	14.12
1941-1945 (Average)	8.48	1.0	1.7	3.0	4.8	6.86	10.8	21.2	26.6	15.4
1946	9.5	0.2	0.5	1.7	5.3	6.2	12.6	20.3	26.4	17.3
1947	7.5	0.7	2.6	2.1	4.6	6.0	12.6	15.3	30.9	17.7
1948	5.93	0.23	1.42	1.16	3.32	4.51	10.45	26.36	28.36	28.50
1949	6.2	1.9	2.6	4.2	3.2	6.2	12.0	22.0	31.0	14.8
1950	3.0	0.4	0.8	1.3	2.4	2.6	10.3	22.2	36.1	25.4
1946-1950 (Average)	5.8	0.68	1.58	2.0	3.76	5.9	11.58	21.22	30.54	16.76

BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN TOWNSHIPS

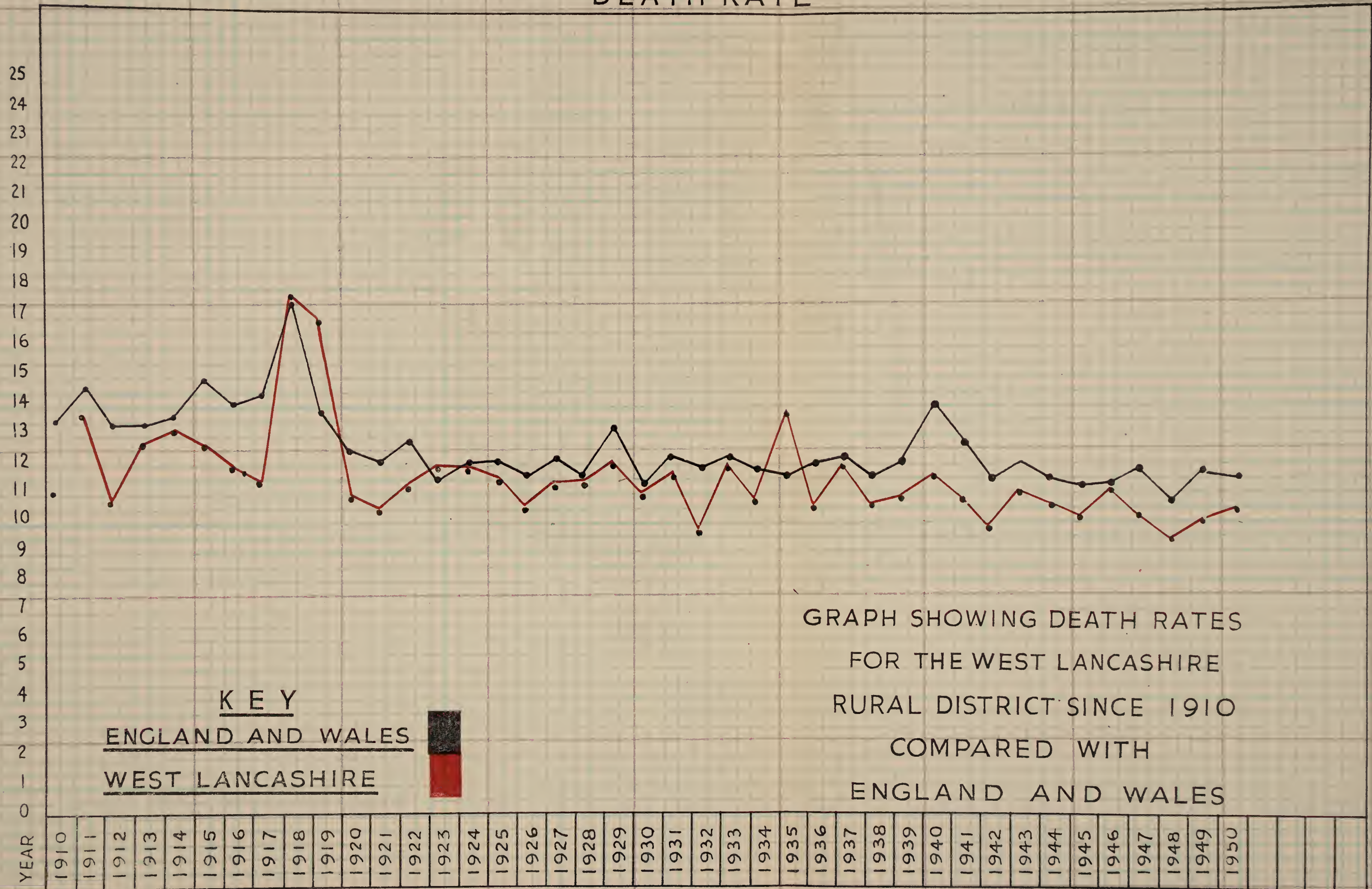
The following table shews the population, number of births and deaths, and the rate per 1,000 in each township in the Rural District for the year 1950.

TOWNSHIPS.		Estimated Population middle of 1950	BIRTHS.		DEATHS.	
			No. of Births.	Rate per 1,000.	No. of Deaths.	Rate per 1,000.
Aintree	...	2,649	32	12.1	26	9.8
Altcar	...	698	5	7.1	2	2.9
Aughton	...	3,561	58	16.3	39	10.9
Bickerstaffe	...	1,546	27	17.5	10	6.5
Bispham	...	265	8	30.2	1	3.8
Downholland	...	620	7	11.3	7	11.3
Ford	...	1,176	18	15.3	12	10.2
Halsall	...	2,245	33	14.7	27	12.0
Hesketh Bank	...	1,854	28	15.1	27	14.6
Ince Blundell	...	536	6	11.2	4	7.5
Lydiate	...	1,693	29	17.7	16	9.4
Maghull	...	10,146	138	13.6	85	8.4
Melling	...	1,552	22	14.2	18	11.6
Netherton	...	3,824	55	14.4	20	5.2
North Meols	...	2,841	30	10.6	33	11.6
Rufford	...	965	24	24.9	10	10.4
Scarisbrick	...	3,206	47	14.7	30	9.4
Sefton	...	452	6	13.3	8	17.7
Simonswood	...	333	1	3.0	2	6.0
Tarleton	...	3,033	40	13.2	28	9.2
Thornton	...	1,675	13	7.8	26	15.5
Whole District	...	44,870	627	14.0	431	9.6

BIRTH RATE



DEATH RATE

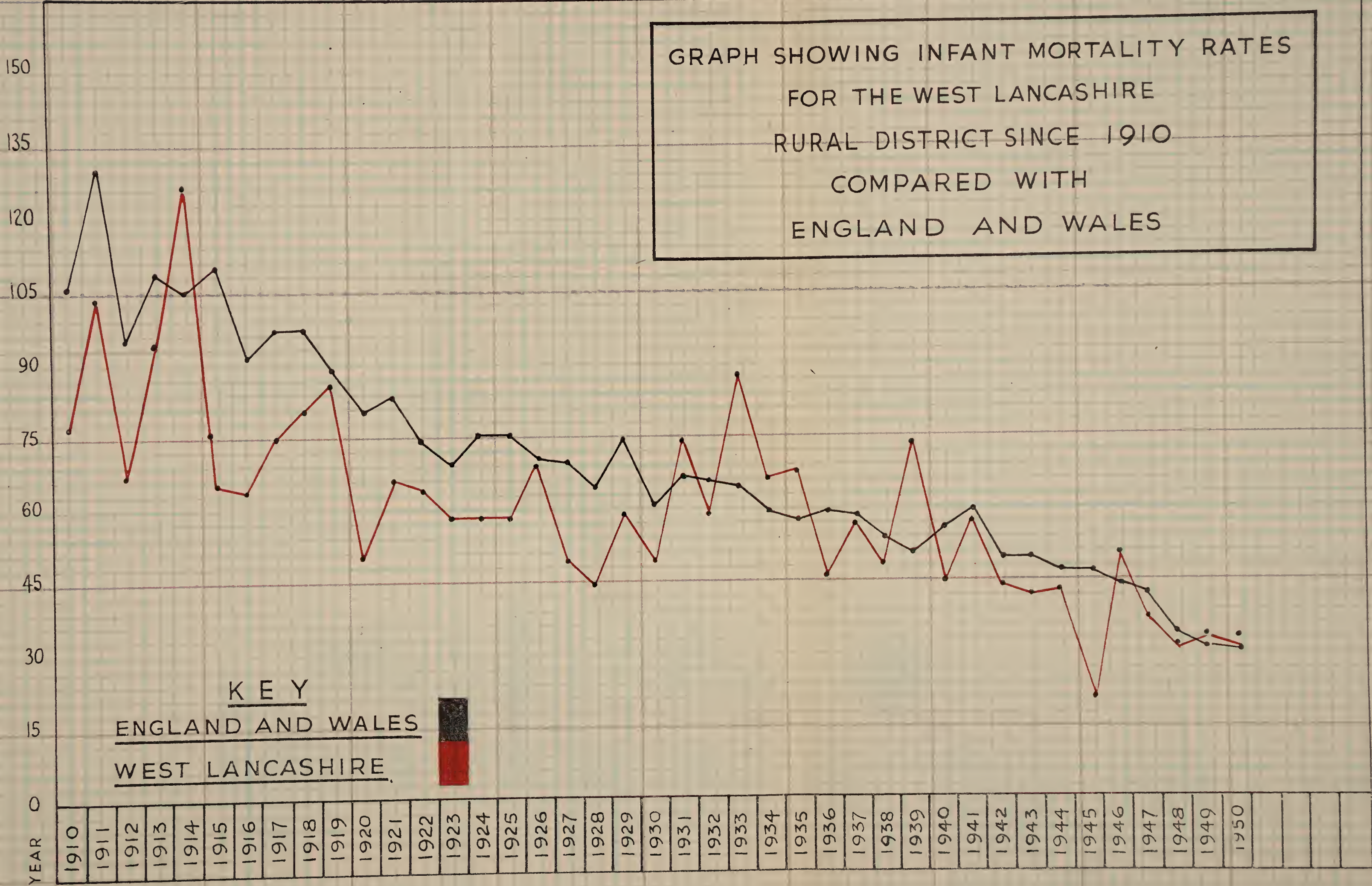


KEY
ENGLAND AND WALES
WEST LANCASHIRE

GRAPH SHOWING DEATH RATES
 FOR THE WEST LANCASHIRE
 RURAL DISTRICT SINCE 1910
 COMPARED WITH
 ENGLAND AND WALES

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

GRAPH SHOWING INFANT MORTALITY RATES
FOR THE WEST LANCASHIRE
RURAL DISTRICT SINCE 1910
COMPARED WITH
ENGLAND AND WALES



MIDWIVES RESIDENT IN THE DISTRICT AT

31st DECEMBER, 1950

Miss I. K. Paisley, c/o "Brooklands," Carr Cross, Southport Road,
 Scarisbrick. Tel. No. Scarisbrick 218 S.C.M.

Mrs. E. Bibby, 160 Northway, Maghull. Tel. No. Maghull 428 S.C.M.

Miss Ruth Freeman, District Nurse, "Burnside," Gorse Lane,
 Tarleton. Tel. No. Hesketh Bank 280 S.C.M., S.R.N.

Miss G. Johnson, District Nurse, "Burnside," Gorse Lane, Tarle-
 ton. Tel. No. Hesketh Bank 280 S.C.M., S.R.N.

Miss J. McGuinness, 135 Northern Road, Crosby. Tel. No. Gt.
 Crosby 1913 S.C.M., S.R.N.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 — NURSING HOMES

The Misses Mary A. Wharton and E. J. Jones,
 32 Gainsborough Avenue, Maghull ... Two maternity or medical cases.

SCHOOL CLINICS

Litherland Clinics—

Linacre Road.

Tuesday ... 9-30—12 a.m. Minor Ailments.
 2— 4 p.m. Dental.

Friday ... 9-30—12 a.m. Minor Ailments. Nurse only for
 dressings.

Sefton Avenue.

Monday ... 9-30—12 a.m. Dental.
 2— 4 p.m. Dental.
 2— 4 p.m. Child Welfare Centre. Dr. Rutherford
 and two nurses.

Wednesday ... 2— 4 p.m. Child Welfare Centre. Dr. Rutherford
 and two nurses.

Thursday ... 9-30—12 a.m. Ophthalmic.
 9-30—12 a.m. Orthopaedic. Nurse every Thursday.
 Surgeon attends second Monday of each
 month only.
 2— 4 p.m. Ante-natal. Dr. Mayeur and two nurses.

Maghull Clinic, Parish Institute.

Monday ... 9-30—12 a.m. Minor Ailments. Two Nurses for Dressings.

Thursday ... 2— 4 p.m. Child Welfare Centre. Dr. Rutherford
 and two Nurses.

Friday ... 9-30—12 a.m. Minor ailments. Dr Rutherford attends
 alternative weeks.

Ormskirk Clinic, General Hospital.

Monday	...	...9-30—12 a.m.	Minor ailments. Dr. Wilson attends.
		2— 4 p.m.	Child Welfare Centre. Dr. Hailwood attends.
Tuesday	...	... a.m. & p.m.	Orthopaedic. Nurse every Tuesday. Surgeon attends first Monday a.m. in each month only.
Wednesday	...	a.m.	Minor ailments.
Friday	...	... a.m. & p.m.	Dental.
		9-30—12 a.m.	Ante-natal. Dr. Meyeur and Dr. Hailwood.

Lathom and Burscough, Old Council Offices, Lathom.

Thursday 2— 4 p.m.	Child Welfare Centre. Dr. Wilson attends alternate weeks.
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Banks Clinic, Gravel Lane, Banks.

Wednesday	...	10—12 a.m.	Minor ailments (Alternate weeks only)—Dr. Wilson.
		2— 4 p.m.	Child Welfare Centre (Alternate weeks only)—Dr. Wilson.
Friday	...	... a.m. & p.m.	Dental.

Jubilee Hall, Aintree.

Tuesday 2— 4 p.m.	Child Welfare Centre. Dr. Rutherford attends alternate weeks.
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Post Office, Scarisbrick

Monday 2— 4 p.m.	Child Welfare Centre. Dr. Wilson attends alternate weeks.
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Fire Station, Tarleton

Wednesday 10—12 a.m.	Child Welfare Centre. Dr. Wilson attends alternate weeks.
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The following is a list of Schools in the district:—

Division No.	SCHOOL.	School No.	No. of children normally Resident in the District attending the school.
6	Hesketh-with-Becconsall C.E. ...	28	88 infants and juniors
6	North Meols, Banks Primitive Methodist	24	142 infants and mixed.
6	North Meols, St. Stephen's ...	25	115 infants and mixed.
6	Tarleton Mere Brow C.E.	26	33 infants and mixed.
6	Tarleton Council	31	39 infants, 69 juniors, 128 seniors.
6	Tarleton C.E.	27	150 infants and juniors.
16	Halsall Central School	30	186 juniors and seniors.
16	Haskayne C.E.	31	15 infants and juniors.
16	Bickerstaffe C.E.	13	104 infants and juniors.
16	Maghull C.E.	16	515 infants and juniors.
16	Maghull Secondary Modern ...	100	500 seniors.
16	Maghull St. George's R.C. ...	17	263 infants and mixed.
16	Maghull Hudson School	32	314 infants and juniors.
16	Melling (Aughton) R.C.	14	49 infants and juniors.
16	Melling C. of E.	15	100 infants and juniors.
16	Scarisbrick St. Mark's C.E. ...	32	32 infants and juniors.
16	Scarisbrick St. Mary's R.C. ...	33	122 infants and mixed.
16	Scarisbrick Council	34	90 infants and juniors.
16	Aughton Christ Church	20	108 infants and mixed.
16	Aughton Parochial	21	140 infants and juniors.
16	Lydiat R.C.	19	67 infants and mixed.
16	Lydiat C.E.	18	91 infants and mixed.
16	Rufford C.E.	22	52 infants and mixed.
16	Holmeswood Methodist	23	38 infants and mixed.
16	Bispham Free Grammar	24	47 infants and mixed.
16	Aintree County School	31	284 infants and juniors.
17	Ince Blundell R.C.	26	51 infants and mixed.
17	Netherton R.C.	28	50 infants and mixed.
17	Netherton Temporary Council ...	29	570 infants and juniors.
19	Sefton Council	27	39 infants and mixed.

SCHOOL CLOSURE.

It was not found necessary to close any of the schools during the year owing to the presence of infectious disease.

SCHOOL HYGIENE

Some schools have had their playgrounds re-surfaced during the year, and it is hoped that this long needed improvement will now be carried out at other schools.

The new Aintree Davenhill County Primary School was opened towards the end of the year and has relieved the difficulties in Aintree where a huttled school has been in use since the previous school was demolished in 1940.

School improvements are steadily being achieved but many alterations are required. More attention should be given to converting and increasing toilet accommodation, especially in the smaller schools.

THE IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT ARE:—

BANK ST. STEPHEN'S.

Corridor re-floored and walls replastered.

TARLETON MERE BROW C.E.

Internal decoration has been carried out.

HALSALL C.E.

Boys' lavatory converted to pails.

MAGHULL C.E.

Internal decoration has been carried out.

Part of yard has been re-surfaced.

MELLING C.E.

New boiler for central heating has been installed.

AUGHTON CHRIST CHURCH.

Part of yard has been re-surfaced.

Interior decoration has been carried out.

Kitchen has been re-equipped.

LYDIATE R.C.

Yard has been re-surfaced.

HOLMESWOOD METHODIST.

Electric radiator has been installed.

INCE BLUNDELL.

Has been re-decorated throughout.

SCARISBRICK COUNTY.

A commencement made in conversions to w.c.'s and septic tank.

THE FOLLOWING ALTERATIONS ARE REQUIRED:—

HESKETH-WITH-BECCONSALL.

Sanitary accommodation is primitive and requires replacement.

BANKS METHODIST.

New sanitary arrangements needed.

BANKS ST. STEPHEN'S.

Yard needs re-surfacing.

TARLETON MERE BROW C.E.

Yard needs re-surfacing.

TARLETON COUNTY C.E.

Water supply to boys' urinal.

HASKAYNE C.E.

Conversion to water carriage system required.

BICKERSTAFFE C.E.

Sanitary accommodation is primitive and requires replacement.

Yard needs re-surfacing.

MELLING C.E.

Conversion of pail closets to water carriage system is urgently required.

SCARISBRICK ST. MARK'S C.E.

Lavatories need renewing.

AUGHTON CHRIST CHURCH.

Improved toilet system required.

LYDIATE C.E.

Yard needs re-surfacing.

Interior decoration is badly needed.

HOLMESWOOD METHODIST.

Yard needs re-surfacing.

INCE BLUNDELL.

Yard needs re-surfacing.

Section C.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE STATISTICS.

[illegible]

The following table shows the number, monthly distribution and nature of cases of Infectious Diseases coming under the notice of the Medical Officer of Health during 1949. 1950.

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTALS	Removed to Hospital
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Scarlet Fever	5	6	5	4	7	2	9	7	3	3	4	8	63	24
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	3	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	7	7
Erysipelas	2	3	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	10	1
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	—	—	4	4
Polio-Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	—	—	38	—
Pneumonia	4	7	6	3	5	3	1	—	1	3	4	1	—	—
Measles	12	76	34	11	32	52	17	9	3	—	—	8	254	4
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Whooping Cough	4	4	3	9	9	3	2	6	10	8	15	25	98	—
Dysentery	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	1
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Anthrax	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Chickenpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Opthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Monthly Totals	28	99	41	28	63	61	30	23	18	18	26	42	476	41

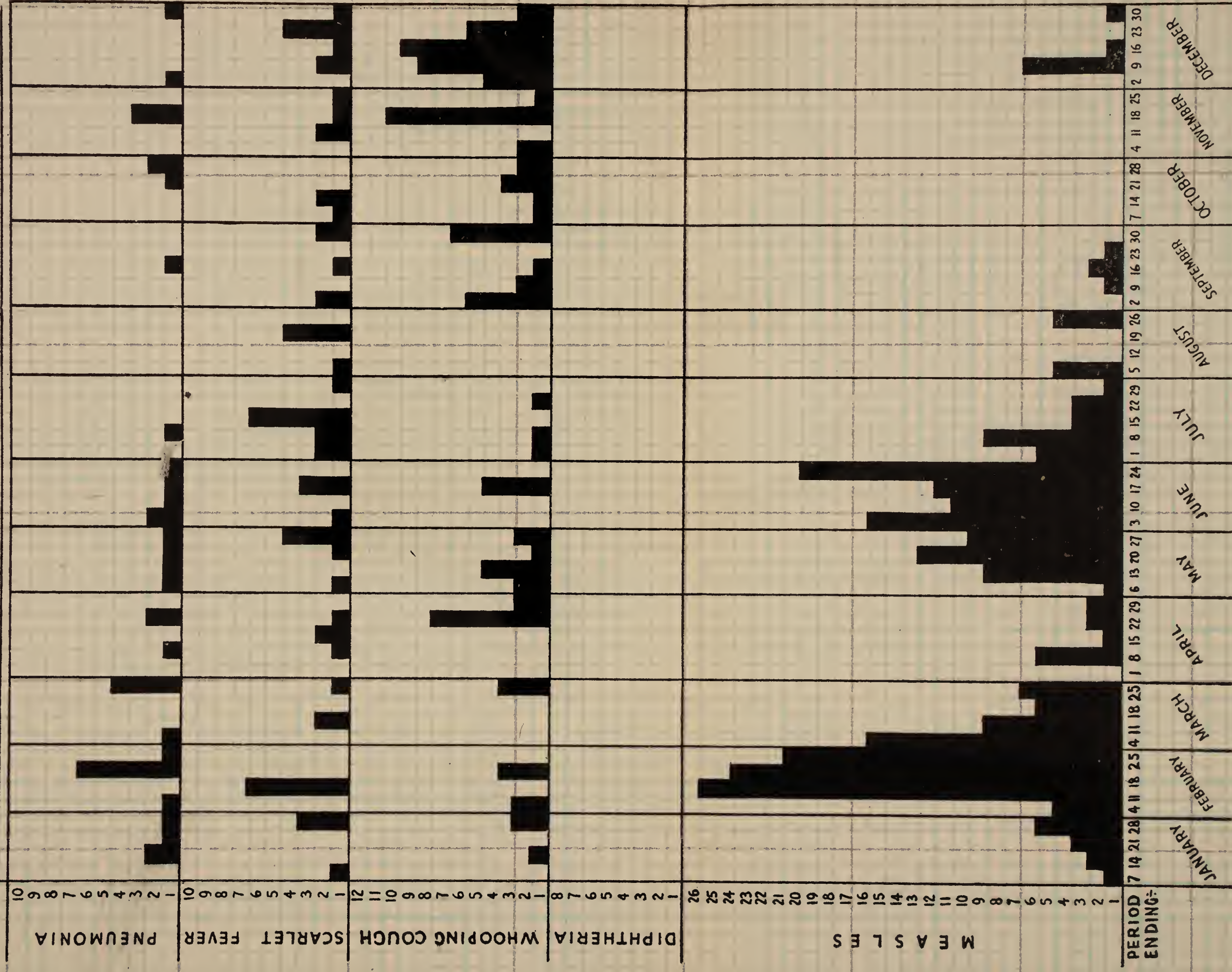
Table shewing the number of Infectious Diseases occurring during the year in each township in the Rural District and the number of deaths.

1949	Pneumonia			Scarlet Fever			Diphtheria			Enteric Fever			Whooping Cough			Erysipelas			Puerperal Pyrexia			Diarrhoea			Measles			Tuberculosis			Polio-myelitis			Encephalitis			Dysentery			TOTALS		
	C	D		C	D		C	D		C	D		C	D		C	D		C	D		C	D		C	D		C	D		C	D		C	D		C	D				
Aintree		-	-		-	-		-	-		2	-		1	-		-	-		-	-		17	-		3	1		-	-		-	-		-	-		23	1	
Altcar		-	-		-	-		-	-		1	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		1	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		2	-	
Aughton	...	7	1	-	-		-	-		-	-		16	-		1	-		1	-		-	-		29	-		5	1		-	-		-	-		-	-		63	2	
Bickerstaffe	...	1	1	-	-		-	-		-	-		5	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		2	-		1	-		1	-		-	-		-	-		10	-	
Bispham	...	-	-	-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		1	-		1	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		4	-	
Downholland	...	-	-	-	-		-	-		-	-		1	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		2	-	
Ford	...	-	-	-	-		-	-		-	-		8	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		22	-		3	1		1	-		-	-		-	-		36	1	
Halsall	...	1	1	-	-		-	-		-	-		5	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		3	-		-	1		1	-		-	-		-	-		16	2	
Hesketh Bank	...	2	-	-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		1	-		-	-		-	-		2	-		3	1		-	-		-	-		-	-		9	1	
Ince Blundell	...	-	-	-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		3	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		5	-	
Lydiate	...	1	1	-	-		-	-		-	-		6	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		2	-		2	1		-	-		-	-		-	-		13	14	
Maghull	...	9	3	15	-		-	-		-	-		10	-		1	-		3	-		-	-		18	-		15	4		-	-		-	-		-	-		71	7	
Melling	...	2	-	-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		21	-		1	2		-	-		1	-		-	-		26	2	
Netherton	...	-	-	10	-		-	-		-	-		12	-		-	-		1	-		-	-		95	-		11	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		129	-	
North Meols	...	5	1	6	-		-	-		-	-		8	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		10	-		2	1		-	-		-	-		-	-		31	2	
Rufford	...	1	1	-	-		-	-		-	-		3	-		2	-		-	-		-	-		5	-		1	1		-	-		-	-		-	-		12	2	
Scarisbrick	...	1	1	12	-		-	-		-	-		15	-		-	-		1	-		-	-		2	-		4	1		-	-		-	-		-	-		35	2	
Sefton	...	-	-	-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		1	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		1	-	
Simonswood	...	-	-	-	-		-	-		-	-		1	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		7	-		1	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		9	-	
Tarleton	...	8	1	2	-		-	-		-	-		2	-		1	-		-	-		-	-		3	-		5	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		21	1	
Thornton	...	-	-	-	-		-	-		-	-		3	-		3	-		-	-		-	-		12	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		-	-		18	-	
TOTALS	...	38	11	63	-		-	-		-	-		98	-		10	-		7	-		-	-		254	-		59	15		4	-		3	-		536	26				

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1950

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES		TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED														Hospital		
		Total Cases at all Ages	YEARS													Total Deaths	Total Cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district
			Un-der 1 year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & over				
Smallpox	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	63	—	1	2	2	5	40	6	4	2	—	1	—	—	24	—	—
Diphtheria	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	...	254	5	13	37	35	30	128	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	98	1	15	10	20	14	37	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	38	—	1	1	1	2	4	2	2	6	3	7	9	11	Unknown	7	7
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	—	—	—	7	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	}	4	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis																		
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	...	3	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Opthalmic Neonatorum	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	...	10	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	3	4	1	—	1	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	46	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	19	7	12	3	12	25	5	5
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	13	—	1	—	—	1	5	1	—	1	4	—	—	3	5	2	2
TOTALS	...	536	8	32	50	59	52	217	18	9	34	19	25	13	26	71	14	14

WEEKLY INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1950



DIPHTHERIA

Central Clinics are held at certain of the schools in the Rural District where children from the neighbouring schools attend for immunisation treatment, together with pre-school children from the surrounding districts. In addition, a monthly clinic is held at The Clinic, Ormskirk General Hospital, a monthly clinic at the Maghull Parish Institute and a fortnightly clinic at the Banks School Clinic.

It is satisfactory to be able to report that no cases of Diphtheria occurred in the Rural District during the year — the second year in which there has been complete freedom from the disease. There is no doubt that this is due to the energetic policy of Immunisation which has been carried out over the last ten years.

DIPHTHERIA IN THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT 1938-1950

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Cases	34	37	20	40	25	12	12	7	6	16	5	—	—
Deaths	2	5	1	3	—	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Total Number of Children who have completed a full course of Immunisation up to and including 31st December, 1950.

	Age Groups		Total under 15 years.
	0-4 years.	5-14 years.	
Total Population in Age Group	3,665	6,453	10,118
Total Number Immunised ...	1,505	4,198	5,703
Percentage	41%	65%	56.3%

DIPHTHERIA INCIDENCE DURING 30 YEARS

5 Year Periods	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & up	TOTAL at all ages
1921-1925	—	—	1	5	2	16	13	3	5	2	1	—	48
1926-1930	1	3	5	3	9	57	31	13	17	3	2	1	145
1931-1935	—	3	3	3	3	25	28	19	15	5	—	1	105
1936-1940	—	—	4	9	6	48	27	13	18	3	1	—	129
1941-1945	2	1	2	5	10	30	10	8	15	3	3	—	89
1946	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	6
1947	—	—	2	—	—	5	5	2	—	2	—	—	16
1948	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	5
1949	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1950	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1946-1950	...	1	3	1	1	6	8	2	2	3	—	—	27

PERCENTAGES

1921-1925	—	—	2	14	4	34	28	6	10	4	2	—	—
1926-1930	1	2	3	2	6	39	21	9	12	2	2	—	—
1931-1935	—	3	3	3	3	25	26	18	15	5	—	1	—
1936-1940	—	—	3	7	5	37	21	10	14	2	1	—	—
1941-1945	2	1	2	6	12	33	12	10	16	3	3	—	—
Average 25 years	0.6	1.2	2.6	6.4	6	33.2	21.6	10.6	13.4	3.2	1.6	0.4	—
1946	—	—	17	17	—	—	32	—	17	17	—	—	—
1947	—	—	12.5	—	—	31.2	31.3	12.5	—	12.5	—	—	—
1948	...	20	—	—	20	20	20	—	20	—	—	—	—
1949	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1950	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1946-1950	...	4	5.9	3.4	4	10.2	22.6	2.5	7.4	5.9	—	—	—

DIPHTHERIA.

Number of persons, in age groups, completely immunised, or found to be Schick Negative:—

Age	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	
Under 1 Year	—	3	2	3	1	1	2	14	41	30	22	17	25	85	58	192	171	
1 Year	4	6	12	18	13	7	10	88	221	203	181	205	175	186	293	173	163	
2 „	6	3	10	22	21	14	24	101	173	71	47	76	36	34	51	22	27	Total under 5 years at end of 1950 1,505
3 „	4	14	11	15	18	10	33	97	137	55	17	23	23	28	24	10	30	
4 „	13	11	6	38	30	21	24	102	144	63	26	13	16	17	19	10	19	
5 „	86	43	72	103	75	36	127	189	225	139	87	28	24	33	26	13	29	
6 „	41	22	60	63	71	32	81	157	124	90	51	19	13	17	41	9	27	
7 „	41	14	40	46	46	16	57	111	66	51	9	11	12	11	5	7	16	Total 5-9 years at end of 1950 1,838
8 „	28	21	36	41	40	12	38	68	57	52	14	5	7	12	5	8	13	
9 „	30	18	15	33	29	16	28	69	50	31	7	6	5	11	4	9	7	
10 „	27	22	22	17	30	12	35	63	38	29	9	3	1	11	3	2	3	
11 „	19	22	15	22	18	11	11	45	29	36	3	7	4	3	2	3	10	
12 „	23	9	19	16	26	5	5	39	31	28	3	3	1	2	2	1	4	Total 10-14 years at end of 1950 2,360
13 „	28	11	10	5	7	3	13	36	12	14	5	2	4	1	—	1	7	
14 „	3	3	4	2	1	—	12	2	1	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	
15 years and over	—	1	5	1	2	2	7	2	3	—	—	2	—	1	—	1	4	
Total	353	223	339	445	428	798	507	1181	1352	892	483	420	346	453	533	461	531	

Total number of children under 15 now fully immunised 5,703.

SCARLET FEVER

Sixty-three cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year.

All sases were of a mild type, but it was necessary to remove 24 of them to hospital. The general policy is to remove to hospital such cases of Scarlet Fever as are living under over-crowded conditions, or in such circumstances that they become conveyors of infection through inefficient isolation.

The following table shews the incidence and mortality from Scarlet Fever during the past ten years:—

	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Cases ...	50	12	66	75	121	57	33	47	61	63
Deaths ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

MEASLES

During the year 254 cases of Measles were notified.

This was an ^{DE}increase on the figure for 1949.

The following table indicates the incidence and fatality of this disease during the past ten years:—

	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Cases ...	292	251	178	180	138	139	189	421	412	254
Deaths ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—

WHOOPING COUGH

Ninety-eight cases of Whooping Cough were notified during the year compared with 147 in 1949 and 227 in 1948.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

Seven cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified during the year. No deaths were recorded.

SMALLPOX

No cases of Smallpox occurred during the year.

PNEUMONIA

Thirty-eight cases of Pneumonia were notified during 1950. Deaths from Pneumonia number 11.

There are no facilities locally for the typing of pneumocci and for the provision of appropriate type sera, such work being of necessity performed in one of the large towns adjacent to the District.

ACUTE ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS

Four cases of Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis were notified during the year. There were no deaths from this disease in the Rural District.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Summary of notifications under the Public Health (Tuberculosis Regulations 1930) received during 1950.

Age Periods.			NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
			Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years										
1—5	...	...	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—
5—10	...	...	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	—
10—15	...	...	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	...	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	...	...	3	3	—	1	1	1	1	—
25—35	...	...	4	10	1	—	—	2	—	—
35—45	...	...	4	4	1	1	1	2	1	—
45—55	...	...	5	2	1	—	2	—	—	—
55—65	...	...	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	...		2	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
			23	23	7	6	6	6	3	—
Totals ...			46		13		12		3	

The Urban Districts of Ormskirk and Skelmersdale and the Rural District of West Lancashire are included in the County Dispensary Area No. 5 with Headquarters at the Dispensary, "Ellesmere," Crosby Road North, Waterloo. Dispensary Sessions are held there on Mondays and Wednesdays at 2 p.m. X-ray examinations are performed on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock. Evening consultations may be arranged by appointment. Dr. A. D. M. Hamilton is the Consultant Tuberculosis Officer for the area, and has as his staff two Assistant Tuberculosis Officers and six Tuberculosis Nurses.

A Pulmonary Hospital of 52 beds is situated at Rufford.

The number of new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis shews an increase of five over the previous year, while the deaths have decreased by three.

NOTIFICATIONS ON FORM 1 BY MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HOSPITALS.

		Public Assistance Hospital.	Sanatoria and Pulmonary Hospitals.	Military and General Hospitals.
Male	...	—	—	1
Pulmonary:				
Male	...	—	1	2
Female	...	—	5	4
Non-Pulmonary:				
Male	...	—	—	1
Female	...	—	1	—

The following table is an analysis of the occupations of the 59 new cases of Tuberculosis notified during 1950:—

Occupation.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Housewife	—	10	—	1
Occupation unknown ...	4	5	—	—
Child 0·5 years	—	—	2	—
School Child (5·14)	1	3	2	4
Woodwork Machinist	1	—	—	—
Pupil Midwife	—	1	—	—
Nurse	—	2	—	1
Ships Fumigator	1	—	—	—
Optician	1	—	—	—
Ambulance Officer	1	—	—	—
Colliery Worker	1	—	—	—
Chef	1	—	—	—
Clerk	3	1	—	—
Shop Keeper	—	—	1	X
Ships Steward	1	—	—	—
Farmer	2	—	1	—
Farm Labourer	2	—	—	—
Analyst	1	—	—	—
Dressmaker	—	1	—	—
Market Gardener	1	—	1	—
Butcher	1	—	—	—
Royal Marine	1	—	—	—
Total ...	23	23	7	X 6

In 27 houses inspected during the year by reason of Tuberculous inmates, 7 cases were found not to be sleeping in separate bedrooms, and in one case the patient was not even sleeping in a separate bed; 19 cases slept in separate bedrooms.

Section D.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTORS. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.— WATER SUPPLY.

The following table summarises the water supply in the Rural District for the year ending 31st December, 1950.

SUMMARY OF WATER SUPPLIES FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1950

PARISHES.	SUPPLIED FROM PUBLIC MAIN.									OTHER SUPPLIES	TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSES AND PERCENTAGES		
	Upholland Urban District Council	Chorley Rural District Council	Wigan Rural District Council	Liverpool Corporation	Ormskirk Urban District Council	St. Helens Corporation	Preston Corporation	Southport & Dist. Water Board	TOTALS	Wells & Rainwater, etc.	Increase or Decrease	TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSES	Percentage with Main Water Supply
Aintree	—	—	—	916	—	—	—	—	916	—	—	916	100.0
Altcar	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	210	210	3	—11	213	98.6
Aughton	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1092	1094	4	—	1098	99.6
Bickerstaffe ...	6	—	—	4	—	1	—	403	414	4	—1	418	99.0
Bispham	—	2	57	—	1	—	—	—	60	6	—	66	90.9
Downholland ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	202	202	5	—	207	97.6
Ford	—	—	—	355	—	—	—	—	355	—	—	355	100.0
Halsall	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	607	607	14	—	621	97.7
Hesketh Bank ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	565	—	565	2	—	567	99.6
Ince Blundell ...	—	—	—	120	—	—	—	6	126	2	—	128	98.4
Lydiat	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	576	576	14	—1	590	97.6
Maghull	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	2786	2790	8	—	2798	99.7
Melling	—	—	—	—	—	393	—	—	393	2	—	395	99.4
Netherton	—	—	—	1098	—	—	—	—	1098	—	—	1098	100.0
North Meols ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	748	754	17	—1	771	97.7
Rufford	—	—	—	—	323	—	—	—	323	1	—3	324	99.6
Scarisbrick ...	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	829	835	22	—	857	97.4
Sefton	—	—	—	152	—	—	—	—	152	—	—	152	100.0
Simonswood ...	—	—	—	1	—	66	—	—	67	2	—	69	97.1
Tarleton	—	—	—	—	2	—	821	—	823	3	—	826	99.6
Thornton	—	—	—	448	—	—	—	—	448	—	—	448	100.0
Totals	6	2	57	3094	332	466	1392	7459	12808	109	—17	12917	99.1

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF WATER

Main Supplies

Regular samples of all mains water supplies are taken throughout the year in order to ensure the purity of the supply. All samples during 1950 shewed a pure and satisfactory water for human consumption.

Other Supplies

Samples of water have been taken from wells and other local sources of water from time to time. Where these samples on bacteriological examination have proved to be unsatisfactory for human consumption the householder has been advised, and action has been taken to require an alternative supply of water to be provided.

1950—SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The following conversions have been effected during the year:—

Privies to Waterclosets	...	...	...	...	...	40
Pails to Waterclosets	...	...	...	...	...	2
Privies to Pails	...	...	...	...	...	29
Fixed Receptacles to Metal Bins	...	...	...	...	...	71

SUMMARY OF CONVERSIONS FOR THE YEARS 1941-1950

Year		Privies to Water Closets	Pails to Water Closets	Privies to Pails	Ashpits to Bins.
1941	...	1	—	—	1
1942	...	5	26	18	19
1943	...	10	1	4	9
1944	...	5	—	32	34
1945	...	4	9	17	4
1946	...	6	—	3	9
1947	...	12	2	5	19
1948	...	17	5	11	33
1949	...	26	11	12	48
1950	...	40	2	29	71

SANITARY CONVENIENCES, 1950

			Closet Accommodation.			Refuse Accommodation.		
			W.C.'s	Pails.	Privies.	Dry Ashpits.	Privy Middens.	Bins.
Aintree	...	...	908	1	7	2	6	908
Altcar	...	...	148	49	16	8	16	179
Aughton	...	...	983	19	96	9	96	966
Bickerstaffe	...	...	193	109	116	6	116	249
Bispham	...	...	12	6	48	—	48	21
Downholland	...	...	75	17	115	4	115	82
Ford	...	...	336	6	13	—	13	342
Halsall	...	...	331	71	219	—	219	402
Hesketh Bank	...	...	368	169	30	—	30	506
Ince Blundell	...	...	85	22	21	—	21	63
Lydiate	...	...	457	26	101	18	101	465
Maghull	...	...	2737	16	45	9	45	2744
Melling	...	...	278	86	31	—	31	343
Netherton	...	...	1087	7	4	—	4	1089
North Meols	...	...	347	312	103	—	103	575
Rufford	...	...	195	66	63	—	63	254
Scarisbrick	...	...	488	86	283	—	283	574
Sefton	...	...	108	2	42	3	42	100
Simonswood	...	...	27	25	17	3	17	21
Tarleton	...	...	542	191	93	—	93	656
Thornton	...	...	433	1	14	—	14	433
TOTALS			10138	1287	1477	62	1476	10972
Percentage			78.5%	9.9%	11.4%	0.5%	11.8%	87.7%

TABLE SHOWING MATTERS DEALT WITH BY SANITARY INSPECTORS DURING THE YEAR 1950.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.			WATER SUPPLY (Public Health Act, 1936).			FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.			SHOPS FACTORIES ACT, ACT 1934-1950			1937.			SCHOOLS		
Inspected	Nuisances Found	Nuisances Abated	Informal Notices	Statutory Notices	Reinspections	Sec. 137	Sec. 138	Samples Taken	Dairies Inspections	Ice Cream Premises Inspected	Bakeryhouse Inspections	Other Food Premises	Food Condemned	Inspections	Inspections	Inspections	Inspections
Aintree ...	71	81	79	47	—	112	57	—	2	4	—	21	57 lbs.	17	14	1	304
Altcar ...	5	5	4	4	—	12	—	11	—	3	—	2	—	6	5	—	44
Aughton ...	59	75	69	24	—	61	10	—	—	15	5	24	—	17	12	2	217
Bickerstaffe ...	25	31	46	17	—	32	1	1	—	4	3	2	—	—	10	1	107
Bispham ...	7	8	8	5	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	2	1	34
Downholland ...	10	10	10	7	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	6	9	1	41
Ford ...	15	20	12	13	—	11	14	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	1	—	47
Halsall ...	65	69	64	45	—	73	1	—	9	7	—	7	2 cwts. 16 lbs.	30	13	1	210
Hesketh Bank ...	45	57	55	25	—	39	3	1	—	5	7	11	—	56	13	1	184
Ince Blundell ...	4	7	6	3	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	1	17
Lydiate ...	25	41	37	16	—	33	—	1	5	5	—	8	—	12	13	2	129
Maghull ...	133	207	201	91	—	142	18	—	—	30	15	53	89 lbs.	5	34	5	446
Melling ...	35	43	40	21	—	59	21	2	—	15	—	18	—	17	20	2	190
Netherton ...	47	52	54	24	—	96	49	2	—	6	11	43	13 tons 1 cwt. 49 lbs.	8	19	1	282
North Meols ...	55	78	80	40	—	86	3	1	9	10	4	7	1 cwt. 88 lbs.	71	14	2	263
Rufford ...	15	16	16	12	—	39	3	—	—	6	—	9	—	19	11	2	108
Scarisbrick ...	67	119	106	53	—	114	4	—	2	15	—	18	—	45	17	3	285
Sefton ...	5	11	11	5	—	20	42	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	5	1	76
Simonswood ...	2	4	4	2	—	6	—	—	—	18	—	7	—	—	28	—	51
Tarleton ...	35	53	56	29	—	48	1	1	3	10	11	16	—	61	32	3	221
Thornton ...	10	16	18	5	—	9	1	—	—	7	—	5	—	9	2	—	52

Section E.

HOUSING

The Rural Housing Survey continued steadily throughout the year. The number of houses inspected was 1,746 and they were classified as follows.

Category 1.	Fit in all respects	884
Category 2.	Requiring minor repairs	351
Category 3.	Requiring repair, structural alteration or improvement	368
Category 4.	Reconditioning	80
Category 5.	Unfit for habitation	63
		<hr/> 1,746 <hr/>

Thirteen parishes have now been surveyed and the grand total of houses inspected and classified to-date is 6,004. They are placed in the following categories.

Category 1.	.....	2,965
Category 2.	.....	1,002
Category 3.	.....	1,460
Category 4.	.....	456
Category 5.	.....	121
		<hr/> 6,004 <hr/>

Since its inception, the Survey has been directed to the more rural parishes, leaving the developed parishes the last to be inspected.

It is now possible to see the general picture in greater detail, and it seems that the houses that are in need of serious repair or structural alteration is about 32% of the total.

2% are considered so unfit by reason of age and disrepair, that they are suitable only for Demolition orders, whilst 66% are sound structurally, in good repair, and possess all or most of the amenities generally considered necessary for a healthy and pleasant life.

Since the passing of the Housing Act 1949, "Reconditioning," or as the Act calls it "Improvement of dwellings," has taken on a new meaning.

From a study of the Act, together with circulars issued by the Ministry, the field of application — especially in the Rural District — has been narrowed down considerably.

The pre-war conception of reconditioning which was carried out under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts, and which enabled Owners to improve old cottages up to a modest standard of fitness is no longer applicable.

Under the 1949 Housing Act, the Ministry are prepared to make grants to Owners, desirous of improving their dwellings to the extent of 50% of the cost, provided the total cost is not more than £600 or less than £100.

Certain conditions as to tenancy and rent charged are laid down, and the improvements when completed must make the dwelling fit in all respects. For this purpose, "fit in all respects" means that the dwelling must:—

1. be in all respects dry.
2. be in a good state of repair.
3. have each room properly lighted and ventilated.
4. have an adequate supply of wholesome water laid on for all purposes inside the dwelling.
5. be provided with efficient and adequate means of supplying hot water for domestic purposes.
6. have an internal or otherwise readily accessible water closet.
7. have a fixed bath, preferably in a separate room.
8. be provided with a sink or sinks and with suitable arrangements for the disposal of waste water.
9. be provided with facilities for domestic washing including a copper, preferably in a separate room.
10. have a proper drainage system.
11. be provided with adequate facilities for artificial lighting in each room.
12. be provided with adequate facilities for heating each habitable room.
13. have satisfactory facilities for preparing and cooking food.
14. have a well ventilated larder or food store.
15. have a proper provision for the storage of fuel.
16. have a satisfactory surfaced path to out-buildings and convenient access from a street to the back-door.

It is abundantly clear from this high standard, that a dwelling must be in a reasonably good state before an improvement grant is considered.

During the year, five individually unfit houses have been dealt with under Section 11, Housing Act 1936.

Two have been demolished, two, it was agreed to accept undertakings to use for agricultural purposes only, and the remaining one is still occupied.

The occupants of the latter will be rehoused as soon as suitable accommodation becomes available, whereupon the cottage will be demolished by the Owner.

92 Council houses were completed during 1950, bringing the total post-war houses to 764.

The grand total of pre-war Council houses, pre-fabs and post-war Council houses now stands at 1,220.

The details of the Parishes surveyed during the year is given herewith:—

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY 1950

PARISH OF INCE BLUNDELL

Acreage.....2319

Number of houses	128
Estimated population (1948)	528
Number of persons per house	4.1
Birth Rate (1948)	4.0
Death Rate (1948)	7.5

Year	Population	No. of houses	Persons per house
1932*	504	112	4.5
1940	502	124	4.04
1950	208	128	4.1

*These records are the earliest available
for the Parish of Ince Blundell.

The 128 houses have been placed in the following categories:—

Category 1.	Fit in all respects	49
„ 2.	With minor defects	39
„ 3.	Requiring structural alteration or repair	29
„ 4.	Requiring reconditioning or reconstruction ...	5
„ 5.	Unfit and requiring demolition	6

The amenities available are:—

Water Supply.

With mains supply	126	REMARKS.
With well supply	2	The latter are two isolated cottages.

Sanitary Accommodation.

With water closet	85	The sewerage of the village now makes it possible to connect 39 houses to the new Disposal Works. Connecting 13 privies and 3 pail closets and connecting 23 w.c's. which at present use septic tank and cesspools.
With pail closet	22	
With privies	21	

Foul Drainage.

To sewer	30	To cesspool	56
To septic tank	21	None	15

(Six houses on Altcar Rifle Range to camp drainage scheme)

Houses without adequate washing facilities	8
„ „ hot water supply	61
„ „ a fixed bath	43
„ „ a sink	9
„ „ suitable food storage	5

Household Refuse.

Houses with bins	63
„ „ privy ashpits	32
„ without provision made.	33

Artificial Lighting.

Houses with electric light	114
„ „ oil lamps	14

Although little change has taken place in the last twenty years in the Parish of Ince Blundell the work done by the Council in the past three years has added considerably to the amenities and housing needs of so sparsely a populated Parish.

The addition of 18 post war houses and the completion of the sewerage scheme in the village, together with the demolition of seven cottages has improved matters where it was most needed.

Out of a total of 128 houses, 42 are Council houses. 24 of the latter are included in Category 1, whilst the remaining 18 have been placed in Category 2 because they lack hot water supply. It is of interest to note that the 24 mentioned were built by West Lancashire Council and the remaining 18 by the Sefton R.D. Council.

Of the privately owned property in the Parish, the majority is owned by the Ince Blundell Estates.

A certain amount of reconditioning of their property has taken place in the past, and at present they are giving consideration to the alterations necessary to convert many of the cottages from cesspool drainage to the water carriage system.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY 1950 PARISH OF HESKETH-WITH-BECCONSALL

Acreage.....3744

Total number of houses	566
Estimated population (1948)	1850
Number of persons per house	3.26
Birth Rate (1948)	15.1
Death Rate (1948)	10.2

Year	Population	No. of houses	Persons per house
1890	947	188	5.03
1910	1036	238	4.35
1930	1692	438	3.86
1948/49	1850	566	3.26

The 566 houses have been placed in the following categories:—

COMMENTS.

Category 1—Fit in all respects ...	324	None.
„ 2—With minor defects ...	91	Informal action taken.
„ 3—Requiring structural alteration or repair ...	70	No action taken.
„ 4—Requiring reconditioning or reconstruction	48	No action taken.
„ 5—Unfit and requiring demolition	33*	To be recommended to the Council for action at the appropriate time.
*23 of these have already been dealt with		

The amenities are:—

Water Supply.

With mains supply	564
Rainwater supply	1
With well supply	1

Sanitary Accommodation.

With water closets	367
With privies	30
With pail closets	169

Foul Drainage.

To sewer	None
To septic tanks	367
To cesspool	194
None	5

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY 1950**PARISH OF ALT CAR**

Acreage.....4,216

Number of houses	213
Estimated population (1948)	688.
Number of persons per house	3.2
Birth Rate	8.7
Death Rate	10.2

Year		Population		No. of houses		Persons per house
1890	...	532	...	94	...	5.6
1910	...	529	...	93	...	5.6
1930	...	482	...	105	...	4.6
1948/49	...	686	...	213	...	3.2

The 213 houses have been placed in the following categories:—

Category 1.	Fit in all respects	136
„ 2.	With minor defects	29
„ 3.	Requiring structural alteration or repair ...	39
„ 4.	Requiring reconditioning or reconstruction ...	1
„ 5.	Requiring demolition	8
		<hr/> 213 <hr/>

The amenities available are:—

Water Supply.

With mains supply	210
With well supply	3

COMMENTS.

The recent completion of the mains extension has reduced the number of wells from 25. The remaining 3 are isolated cottages.

Sanitary Accommodation.

With water closets	148
With pail closets	49
With privies	16

Foul Drainage.

To sewer	105
(5 to T.A. Camp drainage scheme)	
To septic tank	42
To cesspool	40
None	21

The 105 houses are situated in Little Altcar and are connected to Formby U.D.C. sewer.

Houses without adequate washing facilities	2
„ „ hot water supply	61
„ „ a fixed bath	48
„ „ a sink	1
„ „ suitable food storage	2

Household Refuse.

Houses with bins	179
„ „ privy ashpits	24
„ without provision made	10

Artificial Lighting.

Houses with electric light	193
„ „ Oil lamps	20

The housing development of Little Altcar which commenced in 1936, had, up to 1939, doubled the number of houses in the Parish. Comparing the population figures, an increase of only 40% has taken place during this time.

Of the total of 213 houses, 24 are farmhouses, 20 are Council houses (12 built in 1948), 102 are semi-detached houses in Little Altcar, and the remaining 67 are the most part agricultural cottages.

The standard of housing in Great Altcar is poor compared with other Parishes. The situation is curious in that many of the cottages are in better condition and repair than some of the farmhouses.

Following the usual practice, the more serious nuisances and defects are being dealt with, and the response of the Owners is satisfactory.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY 1950**PARISH OF SIMONSWOOD**

Acreage.....2,654

Number of houses	69
Estimated population (1949)	337
Number of persons per house	4.88
Birth rate	14.8
Death rate	5.9

Year	Population	No. of houses	Persons per house
1890	477	72	6.6
1910	354	62	5.7
1930	314	63	5.0
1949	337	69	4.88

The houses in the Parish have been placed in the following categories:—

		COMMENTS.
Category 1—Fit in all respects ...	20	—
„ 2—With minor defects ..	9	Informal action taken
„ 3—Requiring structural alteration or repair	39	—
„ 4—Requiring reconditioning	nil	—
„ 5—Requiring Demolition	1	Owned by Liverpool Corporation.
Total ...	69	—

The amenities available are:—

Water Supply.

COMMENTS.

With mains supply	67	The last mentioned also carry from Standpipe approx. $\frac{1}{2}$ mile distant.
With well supply	1	
Rainwater supply	1	

Sanitary Accommodation.

With water closets	27
With pail closets	25
With privies	17

Foul Drainage.

TO SEWER.

2 to Kirkby Trading Estate
Sewerage System

To septic tank	22
To cesspool	29
None	16

Houses without adequate washing facilities	1
„ „ hot water supply	38
„ „ a fixed bath	38
„ „ a sink	3
„ „ a suitable food store	1

Household Refuse.

Houses with bins	21
„ „ privy ashpits	32
„ without any provision made	16

Artificial Lighting.

Houses with electric light	57
„ „ gas lighting	1 Calor Gas
„ „ oil lamps	11

The general standard of housing in the Parish is low. The majority of the houses are more than 60 years old and dampness and lack of amenities are the principal defects.

The total of 69 houses comprise 22 Farms, 10 farm cottages, 6 smallholdings, 12 Council houses and 19 other houses and cottages.

Of this total, the following are owned by Liverpool Corporation:—

Farms	10
Farm cottages	5
Other houses	8
<hr/>	
Total ...	23
<hr/>	

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY 1950

PARISH OF NORTH MEOLS

Acreage.....5,453

Number of houses	770
Estimated population (1949)	2853
Number of persons per house	3.7
Birth Rate	9.1
Death rate	7.7

Year	Population	No. of houses	Persons per house
1890 ...	1588	294	5.4
1910 ...	1940	416	4.6
1930 ...	2255	592	3.8
1949 ...	2853	770	3.7

The houses in the Parish have been placed in the following categories:—

Category 1. Fit for all respects	355
„ 2. With minor defects	183
„ 3. Requiring structural alteration	191
„ 4. Requiring reconditioning or reconstruction ...	26
„ 5. Requiring demolition	15
<hr/>	
Total ...	770
<hr/>	

The amenities available are:—

Water Supply.

With mains supply	754
With well supply	nil
With rainwater supply	16

Sanitary Accommodation.

With water closets	347
With pail closets	312
With privies	103

Foul Drainage.

To sewer	38
To septic tank	315
To cesspool	412
None	5

Houses without adequate washing facilities	27
„ „ hot water supply	339
„ „ a fixed bath	411
„ „ a sink	2
„ „ a suitable food store	138

Household Refuse.

Houses with bins	574
„ „ privy ashpits	103
„ without any provision made	93

Artificial Lighting.

Houses with electric light	647
„ „ gas lighting	92
„ „ oil lamps	31

The general standard of housing in the parish is fairly good.

70% of the total are structurally sound and free from serious dampness and have available most of the amenities considered necessary to modern standards.

The remaining 30% are poor. Built over 60 years ago, there is much inherent dampness from lack of damp coursing and worn and porous brick.

The majority of them hardly seem to warrant the high expenditure necessary to bring them up to modern standards, and in consequence they are poorly maintained.

Fifteen cottages have been placed in Category V — (demolition) and twenty six in Category IV — (reconditioning). The difference between the two groups is slight and will be kept under review from time to time. If the present trend of building costs keep on increasing, it may be necessary to transfer most of the Category IV cottages to Category V.

Section F.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949.

There are 25 milk distributors registered with the Local Authority, 11 of which have dairy premises in the district.

30 visits were made to these dairies and the premises were found satisfactory.

2. The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Regulations 1949.

Dealers Licences (including Supplementary Licences) issued under the above Regulations are as follows:—

	BOTTLING	DISTRIBUTION
Tuberculin Tested	1	14
Pasteurised	—	10
Sterilised	—	4

3. Milk Sampling.

Twenty-nine samples were taken by the Inspectors during the year.

Twenty-three of these samples were for Tuberculosis, three prove dpositive and twenty negative.

The three positive cases were referred to the Divisional Inspector, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Six samples were submitted for Methylene Blue reduction and were satisfactory.

All the examinations were carried out by the Pathological Department of the Liverpool University.

4. Food and Drugs Act 1938.

As from July, 1940, this Act has been administered by the County Sanitary Inspectors.

The accompanying figures have been supplied by the County Council:—

	Samples taken	Prosecutions
Milk	215	—
Miscellaneous	40	—

5. Bakehouses.

There are fifteen Bakehouses in the District, distributed as follows:—

Aughton 2, Bickerstaffe 1, Hesketh Bank 2, Maghull
4, Netherton 2, North Meols 1, and Tarleton 3.

Fifty-six inspections have been made during the year, and the premises are kept in a satisfactory condition.

6. Ice Cream.

There are eight manufacturers and fifty-two dealers of ice-cream in the area.

One hundred and sixty visits and inspections were made to the premises where the ice-cream is manufactured and sold.

During the year forty-six samples of ice-cream were obtained and submitted for Methylene Blue reduction test.

Results of these samples were:—

Grade I.	—	20
Grade II.	—	22
Grade III.	—	4

7. Meat and other Foods.

Byelaws under Section 15, Food and Drugs Act 1938, for securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food sold, etc., were made and confirmed by the Minister of Food during the year.

Shops, vehicles and premises where food is prepared, stored, conveyed or sold, are kept under constant supervision.

The following meat and other foods were condemned during the year:—

Place	Weight Condemned.		
	cwts.	qrts.	lbs.
Aintree Cold Storage	—	—	57
Various retail shops and food manufactur- ing premises	13	6	18
	<hr/> 13	<hr/> 6	<hr/> 75

A large quantity of this total consisted of bread which was partly burned and partly under-baked due to an electric power break-down, resulting in thousands of loaves being rendered unfit for human consumption.

Inspections carried out at Aintree Cold Stores consisted of imported meat and meat products.

8. FACTORIES.

The total number of factories with and without mechanical power is 210. 279 inspections were made and 25 defects were found, 24 defects being remedied.

1. INSPECTIONS

Premises.	No. on Register.	Inspections.	Notices	Prosecution.
Factories in which Sec. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6, are enforced by Local Authority	49	100	—	—
Factories not included above in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authority	155	172	—	—
Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authority	6	7	—	—
Totals	210	279	—	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND.

Number of cases in which defects were found.

Premises	Found.	Remedied.	Referred To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	Prosecu- tions.
Want of cleanliness (Sec. 1)	14	13	—	—	—
Overcrowding (Sec. 2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (Sec. 3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (Sec. 4) ...	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (Sec. 6)	5	5	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (Sec. 7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	4	4	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act ...	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	25	24	—	—	—

9. OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The Soap Works situated in Park Lane, Netherton, is under good management and the conditions are satisfactory.

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

Since the above Act came into operation on the 31st March, 1950, it is the duty of every Local Authority to ensure so far as practicable that their district is kept free from rats and mice.

The fullest co-operation still exists with the Lancashire Agricultural Executive Committee in respect of treatment of farm lands and ditches adjacent to dwelling houses and factories.

The Council employ one Rodent Operative who carried out re-infestation of premises and dealt with infestation complaints which were found to be of minor character only.

The Council have agreed to the scheme whereby all infestations to private premises are dealt with free of charge.

Under the same scheme business premises are charged the full amount for disinfestation, and by close co-operation and arrangement these premises receive frequent inspection and treatment when necessary.

The treatment of sewers and sewage works has been dealt with by the Surveyor's Department, and periodical re-treatment is carried out to prevent serious re-infestation.

REPORT FOR PERIOD YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1950

1. PREVALENCE OF RATS AND MICE

Type of Property	No. of properties in Local Authority's Area						
	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)	(vi)	(vii)
	In which infestation was				Analysis of Column (iv)		
Type of Property	Number infested by				Rats		
	Total	Notified by Occupier	Otherwise discovered	Recorded Total of (ii) & (iii)	Major	Minor	Mice only
Local Authority's Property	10	8	—	8	—	8	—
Dwelling Houses	12032	79	30	109	—	94	15
Business Premises	421	13	—	13	—	11	2
Agricultural Property	701	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	13164	100	30	130	—	113	17

2. MEASURES OF CONTROL BY LOCAL AUTHORITY

Type of Property	No. of properties inspected	No. of inspections made	Number of notices served under Section 4				Number of treatments carried out			Block treatments of properties in different occupancies under Sect. 6 (1) or by informal arrangement		
			Treatments	Works	Rats	Mice only	by arrangement with Occupier	Under Section 5 (1)	Rats	Mice only	Number of Blocks	Surface of separate occupancies treated
Local Authority's Property	10	21	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	43
Dwelling Houses	1451	1778	—	—	94	15	—	—	—	—	—	—
Business Premises	31	70	—	—	11	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Agricultural Pproperty	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1492	1869	—	—	113	17	—	—	—	—	—	43

